

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (original): A sensor strip comprising:

- (a) a base layer having a first major surface and a second major surface;
- (b) a cover layer having a first major surface and a second major surface, the first major surface of said cover layer facing the first major surface of said base layer, the first major surface of the cover layer having a layer of mesh adhered thereto;
- (c) a spacer layer interposed between the first major surface of said cover layer and the first major surface of said base layer to separate said cover layer from said base layer;
- (d) a flow channel having walls formed by said first major surface of said cover layer, said first major surface of said base layer, and said spacer layer, said flow channel having a reaction site therein, the layer of mesh not contacting the reaction site;
- (e) a sample application zone, where a liquid sample is introduced into said flow channel; and
- (f) at least one opening communicating with said flow channel to allow gas to be vented from said flow channel.

Claim 2 (original): The sensor strip of claim 1, wherein said reaction site includes an electrode arrangement.

Claim 3 (original): The sensor strip of claim 2, wherein said electrode arrangement comprises a working electrode and a dual-purpose reference electrode/counter electrode.

Claim 4 (original): The sensor strip of claim 3, wherein said electrode arrangement further includes a trigger electrode.

Claim 5 (original): The sensor strip of claim 3, wherein said electrode arrangement further includes a reagent system on at least said working electrode.

Claim 6 (original): The sensor strip of claim 5, wherein said reagent system comprises an enzyme and a mediator for said enzyme.

Claim 7 (original): The sensor strip of claim 2, wherein said electrode arrangement comprises a working electrode, a counter electrode, and a reference electrode.

Claim 8 (original): The sensor strip of claim 7, wherein said electrode arrangement further includes a trigger electrode.

Claim 9 (original): The sensor strip of claim 7, wherein said electrode arrangement further includes a reagent system on at least said working electrode.

Claim 10 (original): The sensor strip of claim 9, wherein said reagent system comprises an enzyme and a mediator for said enzyme.

Claim 11 (original): The sensor strip of claim 1, wherein said at least one opening is formed in said spacer layer.

Claim 12 (original): The sensor strip of claim 1, wherein said at least one opening is formed in said cover layer.

Claim 13 (original): The sensor strip of claim 1, wherein said spacer layer comprises a layer of adhesive.

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~The sensor strip of claim 13~~ A sensor strip comprising:

(a) a base layer having a first major surface and a second major surface;

(b) a cover layer having a first major surface and a second major surface, the first major surface of said cover layer facing the first major surface of said base layer, the first major surface of the cover layer having a layer of mesh adhered thereto;

(c) a spacer layer interposed between the first major surface of said cover layer and the first major surface of said base layer to separate said cover layer from said base layer wherein said spacer layer comprises a layer of adhesive, wherein said adhesive is formed from a radiation-curable adhesive;

(d) a flow channel having walls formed by said first major surface of said cover layer, said first major surface of said base layer, and said spacer layer, said flow channel having a reaction site therein, the layer of mesh not contacting the reaction site;

(e) a sample application zone, where a liquid sample is introduced into said flow channel; and

(f) at least one opening communicating with said flow channel to allow gas to be vented from said flow channel.

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~The sensor strip of claim 13~~ A sensor strip comprising:

(a) a base layer having a first major surface and a second major surface;

(b) a cover layer having a first major surface and a second major surface, the first major surface of said cover layer facing the first major surface of said base layer, the first major surface of the cover layer having a layer of mesh adhered thereto;

(c) a spacer layer interposed between the first major surface of said cover layer and the first major surface of said base layer to separate

said cover layer from said base layer wherein said spacer layer comprises a layer of adhesive, wherein said adhesive is formed from a water-borne adhesive or a solvent-borne adhesive;

(d) a flow channel having walls formed by said first major surface of said cover layer, said first major surface of said base layer, and said spacer layer, said flow channel having a reaction site therein, the layer of mesh not contacting the reaction site;

(e) a sample application zone, where a liquid sample is introduced into said flow channel; and

(f) at least one opening communicating with said flow channel to allow gas to be vented from said flow channel.

Claim 16 (original): The sensor strip of claim 1, wherein said spacer layer comprises a backing having a layer of adhesive on both major surfaces thereof.